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profession generally. The same is true of the architectural plans which are being collected. These will prove to be of the greatest value to those architects, trustees and librarians who can journey to Headquarters to inspect the collection. It should be possible, however, through blue prints, tracings, photographs, or other means, to meet the constantly increasing inquiries which are reaching Headquarters from those who are not able to see the collection in its entirety. If librarians, accepting the assurance of the administration that there is urgent need for both of the above-mentioned collections, will but forward, *in duplicate*, a full collection of all their printed matter, and use their influence with trustees and architects to secure floor plans and photographs, both exterior and interior views, of their libraries, a permanent collection of inestimable value to library progress will have been brought together.

Architects, trustees and librarians, who have been either seen or written to, show a hearty willingness to furnish plans and photographs of their library buildings. It is evident that as this collection grows its value must necessarily increase, to the Association, to the visitor and to those who wish advice and suggestions sent to them.

Headquarters has received plans and photographs of about fifty library buildings, ranging in cost from \$10,000 to over \$250,000. These plans have already been of sufficient use to mark the value of such a collection and to warrant the Committee in prosecuting a vigorous campaign in adding thereto.

Much benefit has come from a collection of interior views, showing the use to which a modern children's room is put. The Committee hopes that librarians who are doing this excellent and highly valuable educational work will contribute such photographs. They are equally anxious to secure plans and photographs of the modern branch library building. By the time this issue of the *Bulletin* reaches its readers, the Committee hopes to be in a position to say that it has in its possession full plans of every branch

building connected with the library system of Brooklyn.

It hopes that other large cities, like New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and St. Louis will follow the good example which Brooklyn has set them.

A serious problem which now confronts the Committee is that of determining the best method of housing this rapidly accumulating collection. Plans reach Headquarters in many different sizes, some so large as to be unwieldy for practical use. Again, their value is too great to warrant frequent handling, entailing serious damage. It has been suggested that they be photographed down to a standard size and that these photographs be used for daily reference, recourse to the originals being had only when details, not brought out with sufficient clearness in the photographs, need to be studied. With the negatives of such photographs in hand, prints could be made from time to time.

Suggestions, looking to a solution of this question, are solicited from such members as may have had experience in housing similar collections.

Plans of every library are wanted, be they old or modern, small or large, proprietary or public, special or university. It is hoped that librarians will take this request seriously, and give their hearty co-operation to this important work which is being undertaken by the committees on Headquarters and Architectural plans.

Membership

Members of the A. L. A. will, within a short time, receive a statement, signed by every member of the Executive Board, calling attention to the great need of concerted action looking to a marked increase in our membership. It requires but an earnest effort on the part of members to bring about a result which shall place the Association upon such a financial basis as shall make possible a wide extension of its activities and a general strengthening of its influence all along the line.

It rests with our membership to decide whether the Association shall retrograde or leap ahead into an even more prominent position in the educational world than it now holds. The one hundred thousand men and women who are to-day employed in library work within the United States should be easily able to guarantee that yearly income which would enable the Association to so greatly enlarge the sphere of its influence.

Asheville Conference

The Travel Committee desires to announce that Mr Charles H. Brown, of the John Crerar Library, Chicago, Illinois, has been added to its membership. Members intending journeying from the West should correspond with him.

The Committee finds it impossible to give at this time any definite information as to transportation rates to Asheville, where the annual conference of the A. L. A. will be held on May 23-29.

The reason for this is due to the fact that the railroads have found it necessary to defer action owing to many complications arising from proposed legislation and the Jamestown Exposition.

Realizing, however, that members of the A. L. A. are anxious to receive some information, even though approximate only, as to what the expense of attending the conference will be, the Committee has prepared the following table showing probable cost from various points of departure, the figures in each case covering transportation charges to Asheville and return, including Pullman accommodations and six days at the Battery Park Hotel, the basis being two in a room, without bath. Those desiring a room to themselves, without bath, should add \$1.00 per day to totals given below; while those who may wish a bath in connection with either a single or a double room should add \$2.00 per day. Accommodations may be had in smaller hotels and boarding houses at prices less than those contracted for at the Battery Park Hotel. For such accommodations de-

duct \$1.00 per day each, two in a room, from the tabulated totals.

From Albany (via New York City) .	\$62.50
" Atlanta	35.00
" Baltimore	47.50
" Boston	65.00
" Buffalo	55.00
" Chicago	55.00
" Cincinnati	45.00
" Cleveland	52.50
" Denver (not via Washington) .	100.00
" Milwaukee	60.00
" Minneapolis	80.00
" New Orleans	55.00
" New York	55.00
" Philadelphia	50.00
" Pittsburgh	52.50
" St. Louis	55.00
" Washington	45.00

The above estimates are believed to exceed actual cost, the Committee feeling it to be wiser to err on that side. Meals *en route* to and from Asheville are not included within the above totals. The smaller hotels and boarding houses, above referred to, are near the Battery Park Hotel and may be depended on, so the Committee is assured by the local committee, to furnish good rooms and satisfactory board.

By a ruling of the railroads which may, however, be modified later, members of the Association who reach Asheville by the way of Washington may travel from Asheville on their way home, depositing their tickets and fifty cents with the railroad in that city and make a side trip to Jamestown. The trip from Washington to Norfolk and return, by boat, would cost approximately \$7.50, including berth on boat, but not meals. Hotel accommodations in Norfolk or at Jamestown will be not less than \$3.00 per day. Members reaching Asheville from the West and South would be obliged to return to Asheville to have their tickets validated. The round trip from Asheville to Jamestown, including Pullman accommodations, would cost approximately \$25.00, not including meals *en route*. The trip to Toxaway and return to Asheville, including a stay of four days at Toxaway, will cost about \$20.00. It is hoped